

Co-operatives Victoria

Board Agenda

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

24 June 2013

SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd, Plaza Business Centre, The Hub, Level 3
26 – 36 McCrae St, Dandenong VIC 3175

Agenda No	Item	Attachments
1	Minute of previous meeting 23 May 2013	Minute
2	Co-operatives National Law	NSW Fair Trading National Co-operatives Law Update Issue 7 June 2013
3	Department of Environment and Primary Industries and Co-op Start Up Manual	Co-op Start Up Manual
4	Proposed Workshop – Towards 2022	
5	Financial Report	
6	Future Meetings	

National Co-operatives Law Update

Welcome to the June 2013 issue of the National Co-operatives Law update.

Co-operatives National Regulations progress

The previous Update alerted subscribers to the public consultation on the draft Co-operatives National Regulations. That consultation period ended on 7 January 2013.

As a result, some changes to the draft National Regulations were proposed to give further clarification to some parts, however these changes do not result in any major changes to the reforms and overall policy.

Copies of all the submissions received are available on the [Co-operatives National Law webpage](#) of the Fair Trading website and a summary of public comments and suggested responses has been prepared by the inter-jurisdictional Co-operatives National Law (CNL) Working Party for the Consumer Affairs Forum (CAF) Ministers. It is proposed to publish this summary on the CNL webpage after it has been considered by Ministers.

It is anticipated that the revised National Regulations will be approved by the CAF Ministers in late July 2013.

In the meantime, States and Territories are progressing the introduction of the CNL or alternative consistent legislation in their jurisdiction.

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Commencement progress

CAF Ministers, at their previous meeting, agreed to extend the introduction of the CNL or alternative consistent legislation for States and Territories until May 2014. This is due to the potential for some jurisdictions to be affected by election cycles, changes of Governments, parliamentary legislative schedules, or the timing of the making of the National Regulations that may delay implementation.

The Ministers also agreed to a staged commencement of the CNL/alternative consistent legislation, which means that those States and Territories that are in a position to commence their new legislation sooner, will be able to do so.

The commencement of the new laws in each State or Territory will occur, when its principal legislation, national and local regulations and supporting administrative arrangements are in place for the operation of the new legislation.

The purpose of the National Regulations is to support the operation of the CNL with uniform arrangements across States and Territories. Each jurisdiction will have its own Local Regulations to deal with matters that differ between the States and Territories, eg. fees and some administrative procedures.

All jurisdictions will continue to update their co-operatives stakeholders about progress made towards commencement, for example, via contact with Federations and this update service.

NSW and Victoria

At this stage NSW and Victoria are the jurisdictions most likely to commence their new laws in 2013, subject to approval of the National Regulations, development of their Local Regulations and implementation of new administrative arrangements. These jurisdictions will consult with stakeholders over their draft local regulations in the near future and subscribers to this service will be alerted when that occurs.

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AUCLA agreement availability

At the request of the inter-jurisdictional working party, a copy of the [Australian Uniform Co-operative Laws agreement \(AUCLA\)](#) has been published on the CAF pages of the Australian Consumer Law website. The AUCLA was signed by all CAF Ministers by February 2012 and provides for the new laws and regulatory scheme for co-operatives.

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Issue #7 - June 2013

Co-op Start Up Manual

Brief notes based on discussion with Aimee McCutcheon, Program Manager, Department of Environment and Primary Industries on 19 June 2013:

DPI is satisfied with our progress – as we have kept them informed.

DPI is disappointed with the response to the Food & Fibre Marketing Co-operative Grants which is open until 30 June 2015.

There have been three applications received (a) an ineligible applicant that was not an agricultural group (b) an approval in principle – apple producers and (b) a possibility – an Eastern Gippsland aggregator online sales.

It had been expected that there would be 20-30 applicants

The eligibility criteria has been amended from incorporated under one year to under four years.

This may result in four other groups becoming eligible.

At the start of the financial year there will be a renewed push to promote the program.

We have agreed to a three month extension of our contract with the Department.

I have also been advised by Melina Morrison that the Mid North Coast Co-op Start Up Manual will be released on 6 July 2013 – the International Co-operative Day

A web site has been created at:

<http://www.cooperativestartupmanual.coop/>

Based on a template, it is still under development but should be completed by mid-July 2013 e.g. pix in the template need to be replaced. There is an additional payment of \$1500 to be made to SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd for the CNL videos. This payment is within the budget allocation for videos. I will be invoicing for some of my time as we are under-budget.

International Co-operative Day



The International Co-operative Day is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July. UN International Day of Co-operatives is celebrated on the same day as the International Co-operative Day which has been celebrated by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) since 1923.

MESSAGE FROM THE ICA

International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) - 91st ICA International Co-operative Day - 19th UN International Day of Co-operatives - 6th July 2013 - "*Co-operative enterprise remains strong in time of crisis*" [English](#)

l'Alliance Coopérative Internationale (ACI) 91ème Journée internationale des coopératives de l'ACI - 19ème Journée internationale des coopératives des NU - 6 juillet 2013 - « *La coopérative, une entreprise qui reste forte en temps de crise* » [Français](#)

Alianza Cooperativa Internacional (ACI) - 91º Día Internacional del Cooperativismo de la ACI - 19º Día Internacional del Cooperativismo de las Naciones Unidas - 6 de julio de 2013 - "*La empresa cooperativa se mantiene fuerte en tiempos de crisis*" [Español](#)

ALIANÇA COOPERATIVA INTERNACIONAL (ACI) - 91º Dia Internacional da Cooperação da ACI - 19º Dia Internacional das Cooperativas da ONU - 6 de Julho de 2013 - "*A empresa cooperativa mantém-se forte em tempos de crise*" [Português](#)

The aim of the day is to increase awareness of co-operatives and promote the movement's successes and ideals of international solidarity, economic efficiency, equality, and world peace.

ICA first celebrated the International Day in 1923. The International Day is now run in partnership with the UN and the UN asks all member governments to participate in the celebrations each year.

The International Day has a different theme each year. Themes in recent years have included 'Co-operative enterprises build a better world' in 2012, 'Youth, the future of co-operative enterprise' in 2011 and 'Co-operative enterprise empowers women' in 2010. Co-operatives around the world celebrate the Day in many different ways, seeking to gain media coverage and public awareness at a local and national level.

UN International Day of Co-operatives, 6 July 2013 "Cooperative enterprise remains strong in times of crisis" - "La coopérative une entreprise qui reste forte en temps de crise" - "La empresa cooperativa se mantiene fuerte en tiempos de crisis".

This year's theme links to the global economic crisis and how many co-operatives are resilient to the effects of the crisis compared to shareholder businesses.